



# Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

April 12, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing today to provide you an update regarding Indiana's application for the federal Race to the Top (RttT) program. As you know, Indiana was not selected to receive funding in the first round of RttT. The second, and final, round RttT application is due June 1, 2010.

While I was disappointed with our first round results, I am approaching this new round with great anticipation. We have learned a great deal from reviewers' comments on our application and other states' applications. While the core of the plan will remain unchanged, our team already is working to make *Fast Forward* more specific and robust. To that end, I am requesting your help.

If you haven't yet taken a look at our Round 1 application, it is available for your review at [www.doe.in.gov/fastforward](http://www.doe.in.gov/fastforward), and beginning today, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will collect public comments on our *Fast Forward* reform plan. We have created a portal (see below for more details), which will be available until Friday, April 23, so we can receive your feedback and suggestions to improve our application.

Please share this message with your local school board members and teachers' association leadership.

After reviewing your feedback, we will post a revised draft of our application and the work plan associated with it. This draft application will closely mirror our final application, with the exception of minor changes or corrections. We expect to post both of these documents on Monday, May 3 for your review. We want all education stakeholders to have ample time to read our application before signing the partnership agreement. The partnership agreement will be due to the IDOE by Tuesday, May 18.

I look forward to hearing your comments and working together on this second phase of RttT. This competition will require all of our best efforts, and I appreciate your support.

Regards,

Dr. Tony Bennett

- What:** Public Comment for Round 2 Race to the Top application
- When:** Comment begins today, Monday, April 12, 2010 and continues through Friday, April 23, 2010
- How:** Step 1 – [Click here](#) to view and read Indiana's *Fast Forward* reform plan and RttT application.  
Step 2 – [Click here](#) to offer feedback on the public comment page.
- Remember:** Please be as detailed as possible and include section and page numbers in your comment.